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Presenting The Living Light philosophy and
features of interest to spiritually-minded people.



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Articles of Interest

PROMISE, THE DESTINY OF LIFE/Richard P. Goodwin2

Excerpts from the Classics

A WANDERER IN THE SPIRIT LANDS/Franchezza4
VIEWS OF OUR HEAVENLY HOME/Andrew Jackson Davis8
THE STRANGE STORY OF AHRINZIMAN/Silvani14
THE PENETRALIA/Andrew Jackson Davis18
A GUIDE TO MEDIUMSHIP/E. W. & M. H. Wallis.20
DISCOURSES FROM THE SPIRIT-WORLD/Rev. R. P. Wilson22
GHOSTLAND/Emma Hardinge Britten37

Regular Features

VISITORS' VIEWS6
INVOCATION10
TODAY'S VIEW OF PAST FRONTIERS.11
NEWS AND VIEWS.12
POET'S PEN13
DICTIONARY OF THE LIVING LIGHT PHILOSOPHY16
SPIRITUAL HEALING27
SERENITY STUDENTS.31
IN OUR THOUGHTS.33
CHILDREN'S CORNER.35
FABLES FOR YOUNG AND OLD.38
HUMOR43
SERENITY EVENTS.43

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Promise,

the Destiny

of Life

by Richard P. Goodwin

God's promise is indeed fulfilled. It's like a man that entertains the thought of being tired — to entertain that type of thinking takes more energy, utilizes more energy

... the promise of God, which is the fullness of the Divine Law, is to be receptive to the whole, to be an open channel or vehicle of acceptance through which the Divine, Infinite Energy that sustains all of life may flow without the obstructions created by the human mind.

than the thought of being filled with energy. The reason that it takes more energy to entertain thoughts of tiredness is because the thought of

being tired is dependent upon the judgments of the human mind. And the judgments of the human mind are always dual or contradicting, for the human mind, being a mental substance of creation, is a positive and a negative instrument. So when man entertains thoughts of tiredness, he is entertaining thoughts of self, and in so doing, is becoming a law unto himself. By that I mean to say that the promise of God, which is the fullness of the Divine Law, is to be receptive to the whole, to be an open channel or vehicle of acceptance through which the Divine, Infinite Energy that sustains all of life may flow without the obstructions created by the human mind.

PROMISE, THE DESTINY OF LIFE

And so it is that man in his many life experiences slowly but surely is going through the process necessary for him to, in time, accept the personal responsibility of his own experiences and his own life. The sustaining of life is the law of God and all around and about us we see that demonstration. This philosophy teaches to love all life and know the light, for to love all life is to rise in consciousness to the God that is in truth our real home. For God demonstrates His love for all of life for it is God that sustains all of life. Now God has been called many things, and of those many things, man must realize that he and he alone expresses God in the ways that he and he alone chooses.

Man suffers not from his acceptance in life, man suffers from his denials in life.

Each and every day of our life we are experiencing the dictates of our own mind and those experiences continue on through evolution, through incarnation upon incarnation, until man learns the true lesson that life has to offer and that lesson is the lesson of God's will, the Divine Will. It's known as Total Acceptance. Whenever the limited will of

the human mind rises to dictate in any experience, in any experience, its authority over the right of Divine Will, then man suffers. Man suffers not from his acceptance in life, man suffers from from his denials in life. And so this philosophy teaches that our destiny, our denials in truth are our destinies. So when we wonder what we are going to do or where we're going to be, then all we need to do is to become aware of our own denials. For each denial that we have in consciousness is a rising of the self will of man over the Divine Right of God. We all know and our experiences of life, when we accept the right of the experience to

... each denial that we have have in consciousness is a rising of the self will of man over the Divine Right of God.

express itself, we become free from the payment of the experience. Because in that moment through our own acceptance does the will of God flow through our consciousness, for we have accepted and that acceptance is that moment of Divine Will. But man slowly but surely in this life and lives yet to come and lives that have already been is gradually learning that great lesson.

(continued page 5)

As humility rises within The Wanderer, his selfish pride falls away.

A WANDERER

in the

SPIRIT LANDS

by Franchezzo

PART IV.

THROUGH THE GATES OF GOLD

CHAPTER XXVII

Continued from last issue—

I knew now that none should dare to despise his weaker brother or crush out his hopes, because to a more advanced mind they seem small and trivial.

I sat long upon that mountain thinking of these things — the young man whom I had helped going on without me. At last I rose and wended my way slowly through a deep ravine spanned by a broken bridge and approached by a high gate, at which many spirits were waiting, and trying by various means to open it in order that they might pass through. Some tried force, others tried to climb over, others again sought to find some secret spring, and when

one after another tried and failed some of the others again would seek to console the disappointed ones. As I drew near six or seven spirits who still hovered about the gate drew back, curious to see what I would do. It was a great gate of what looked to me like sheets of iron, though its real nature I do not even now know. It was so high and so smooth, no one could climb it, so solid it was vain to dream of forcing it, so fast shut there appeared no chance of opening it. I stood in front of it in despair, wondering what I should do now, when I saw a poor woman near me weeping most bitterly with disappointment; she had been there some time and had tried in vain to
(continued page 30)

PROMISE, THE DESTINY OF LIFE

continued from page 3

And so when you have something that you desire to accomplish, remember, in those efforts to accomplish, you must pay the price of the control of the human mind for without the control of your mind the limited laws of the mind become established.

For many centuries our individual souls have been evolving and there are many, many centuries that yet face us in our evolution until there is a total acceptance within us of all experiences that our minds encounter. Illumination is directly dependent upon our willingness to accept. Without that willingness, there is no illumination. Without that acceptance, there is no fullness of God's love. So let us think now in this moment, in this experience, what it is within us that is dictating? Is it our eternal soul, or is it the limited experiences that this short earth life has already given to us? My good friends, lessons are given in many different ways that hopefully in some day we will in truth accept the cause of them.

The greatest failing known to man is the failing of placing the blame and responsibility in life's experiences outside onto someone else or something else. This is one of the greatest

delusions ever created by the human mind, but this delusion does in truth serve a good purpose. It serves the purpose of preserving the rigidity of our own will. It is that rigidity that slowly but surely is being broken. It is that rigidity that is man's true suffering. For a wise man long ago stated that a petrified opinion never saved a human soul. So it is our opinion that we have become addicted to. It is our opinions that in truth are causing our lack of goodness in our life,

The greatest failing known to man is the failing of placing the blame and responsibility in life's experiences outside onto someone else or something else.

but those opinions created by our minds can be changed. They're changed through the power of prayer. For the mind to try to change an opinion that it has already accepted is only a battle and a house divided. It is through honest prayer that we are freed from these dictates of yesterday. It

... a petrified opinion never saved a human soul.

is through our own constant effort of prayer in all of our
(continued page 7)

Visitors' Views

"This is the vanguard of the new order. Way to go."

* * * * *

"I enjoyed the service. It was very different from the kind I have attended in the past. I felt those conducting the service very sincere and joyous in their work. I believe we each have the ability to communicate with God. I want to say thank you!" — V.I.H.

* * * * *

"I enjoyed today's service very much. I must admit I did have a few doubts about the church before I came, but, now that I've experienced it, my doubts have been erased. I considered it an inspiring experience and would like to attend the church when the opportunity presents itself again."

* * * * *

"Excellent, supportive, healing, joyous. Readings are always helpful." — S.P.

"I have visited once before and have gained great comfort and a feeling of peace. I am usually very private, yet I find a comfort from the spirit knowing my concerns in life. Thank you." — J.W.

* * * * *

"Very much enjoyed the high energy of many fine people. Choir very fine. Very uplifting experience. May God be praised."

* * * * *

"I enjoyed the service and felt that some really good information from spirit came through.

I am presently looking at my interest in spirit through mediumship with some questions as I've been told there is a great danger of one's personal ego getting in the way of spirit's work and therefore interfering with one's personal spiritual unfoldment."

PROMISE, THE DESTINY OF LIFE

continued from page 5

endeavors. In all of our thoughts, place God the Divine Principle, in your thought and God will move whatever mountain your minds may have already created as your obstruction. If you will remember that in each and every moment of your life, you will live to see through experience that there is a power and an intelligence that is totally neutral, totally impartial, that brings the promise of your own soul's aspiration.

In reviewing the experiences of our lives we can see so clearly how many times we have thought of one thing and manifested the direct opposite. To think one thing and demonstrate the direct opposite is the law of failure. That law, so often, so many of us in our short earth life have already demonstrated. Why does man think one thing and manifest the direct opposite? We must ask ourself that honest question. In this philosophy, which teaches that there are eighty-one levels of consciousness, that the eternal soul is in a constant process of moving through those levels of consciousness, that it is through honest prayer that man is able to sustain the soul in one level of consciousness to accomplish and fulfill the law es-

tablished on that level of consciousness. If that is difficult for you to understand, then stop and think of the many, many things you cannot remember. Think of how faulty the human memory seems to be. It's not really faulty at all. It simply reveals that man experiencing a certain experience on level twenty, and moving to level six at another moment, does not on level six know what took place on level twenty unless he has gained through total acceptance some degree of illumination. And so it is that man thinks one thing on one level of consciousness, moves in a moment to another level of consciousness, and

*It is through honest prayer
that we are freed from these
dictates of yesterday.*

demonstrates the direct opposite because man, through a lack of awareness, has become a house divided, and the Bible teaches us long ago that a house divided cannot stand. So let us, my good friends, no longer be a house divided. Let us awaken within ourselves to these many levels of consciousness and when we say something and establish that law, let us unite that we may be aware of the law that we established yesterday. And no

(continued page 9)

Davis describes the scenes embracing the Seven Lakes of Cylosimar.

Views of Our Heavenly Home

by Andrew Jackson Davis

CHAPTER XI.

REMARKABLE PLACES IN THE SUMMERLAND

Continued from last issue—

"One morning my dear father came to me and said: 'Daughter, arise! go out upon the hills with us.' . . . We prepared . . . We went out upon the hills. . . . The Seven Lakes of Cylosimar, . . . disposed at regular distances forming a crescent-shaped curve amid the over-folding margins, and beneath the far-off lofty heavens, . . . appeared like the setting of brilliant diamonds." — Extract from Katie's communication in the Penetralia, New Ed., p. 278.

After many days we return to contemplate the manifold glory and harmony of our Heavenly Home.

I have in the meantime enjoyed four very interior experiences; to detail which would require a large volume. I have observed a glory that surpasses the brightness of twenty suns like ours. It was the enchanting supercelestial effulgence that emanates from still higher and more interior

Spheres.

In 1854, twenty-three years ago, I received what is recorded in the Penetralia, an extract from which is quoted at the head of this chapter; at which time "she could not exactly tell when she, with the large party of friends, would return from the northern section."

Many times since I have wondered why she did not bring to me something further
(continued page 26)

PROMISE, THE DESTINY OF LIFE

continued from page 7

matter what we think it takes, let us fulfill those dictates until we have the sufficient experience to know beyond a shadow of any doubt that whatever happens to us in life eternal, we are the only and direct cause thereof.

To think one thing and demonstrate the direct opposite is the law of failure.

Think of all the things that you have thought that you would like to do, and think of the many excuses that rise within your mind that says that was the reason I did not accomplish it. I assure you, my good friends, the easiest thing in the world is to accomplish what you desire. The difficulty is in knowing what you desire and sustaining the effort necessary to do it. The law is most impartial. The law works for everyone, but it does not work for us unless we work with it. This philosophy reveals these simple laws of God. They are

... when we face ourselves, when we become honest with ourselves, we know where we are, and we also know why we are where we are.

available to all of God's child-

ren, but unless we are willing through the law of continuity to sustain what in truth we desire in life, then it shall not come into our being but we shall continue to be successful in our failures in life. A man must say, well I don't choose this and I don't choose that, and in the next moment he says the direct opposite. Don't you understand, my good friends, when we face ourselves, when we become honest with ourselves, we know where we are, and we also know why we are where we are. So, if you are not fulfilled in where you believe that you are, then that is opportunity knocking at your door telling you very simply, make a decision in your consciousness in this moment in the now and make that decision with sincere prayer and you will have the help that is needed to fulfill it.

Life, the effect of our thought, changes when we change our thought.

Man's fears plague him each day, every day. They plague the mind because they have been sustained by the mind for so very long. They don't need to do that if we make the effort to change our thinking. Life, the effect of our
(continued page 24)

nvocation

*O God, help us to choose
the path of peace whenever,*

*wherever, and in whatever we
do.*

eading

Sometimes we think that we need to go "back to nature," or to a certain area we find restful, listen to certain soothing music, or even sit in a certain meditation chair in order to feel spiritual or to experience our inner peace. But whenever we make this judgment, we give power to something outside of ourselves — something temporary which is changing all the time. When we make this judgment, we also are bound by it and the result is that we become dependent upon our "peaceful spot," certain music, and even our meditation chair. This is not to say that these things are not useful in bringing us to the awareness of peace, the power of God, but they are only tools to be used in the discovery process. It is when we use them to the exclusion of a moment-by-moment exercising of our spirituality, peace, that we begin to abuse them. For a peaceful site, a meditation chair, and tranquil music are vehicles of form which are serving their pur-

pose only so long as they are assisting in our awareness of our true being.

Once awareness of our spirituality is present, once we are familiar with the power of peace, then we must move on — the awakening period is over — and it is then time to demonstrate what we have become aware of. For what good would it be to be peaceful and spiritual on top of a hill, or in a certain chair and then demonstrate the opposite in our daily lives? Why spend time seeking peace and disciplining the mind in moments of meditation and then when confronted with a real-life trauma, a real-life experience, fall into the patterns of the mind — patterns of fear, doubt, blame? It is the experiences of life that test just how really spiritual we are. If we stand firm and guide our little ship into peaceful waters, when the storms of life appear, then we won't have to experience emotional trauma — trauma we put ourselves through each time we do not put God, or

(continued page 24)

Today's View of Past Frontiers

SPIRITUALISM IN NEW ENGLAND

by C. Harrison Engel — National Missionary

Excerpts from CENTENNIAL BOOK OF MODERN SPIRITUALISM IN AMERICA

Continued from last issue—

Boston became well known in the movement, important because Andrew Jackson Davis spent much of his life and wrote much there. Boston produced the world's greatest Lyceumist and Lyceum under Maggie Fulsom Butler. Here for many years she held her annual Lyceum May Festival of Song, Dance and the Arts in gigantic Mechanics Hall. Her young people numbered into the hundreds and her audiences in the thousands. She was assisted by the best dancing, voice and art teachers in Boston and vicinity and some of her early pupils became outstanding stars of Concert, Light Opera and Musical Comedy to gladden the hearts of many. She more nearly than any one caught the vision that was A. J. Davis Lyceum inspiration and exemplified it on the earth plane. The names of C. Fanny Allyn, Frederick Wiggin, George Cutter, Wellman C. Whitney, Isobell Bradley, Maude Torrey, Fred Nicholson, Minnie Meserve

Soul, and a host of others were those who carried the torch after the first great period of enlightenment.

It is note-worthy that Harrison D. Barrett, orator and author, educated for the clergy, became the first president of The National Spiritualist Association of America, and that he was born in "The Happy Land of Canaan" in Maine. He created the substance of our first three declarations of principles in a court room while defending a medium accused of witch-craft, giving these as the tenants of her religion to the Judge, thus winning her case and thereby establishing the foundation of International Spiritualism. These articles were perfected and added to at the first N.S.A. Convention in Chicago. A National Pilgrimage is now held annually to his birth and last resting place in Canaan, Maine. A stone is shortly to be erected in the town to commemorate his work, and the work of our early pioneers. (Article written in 1948)

NEWS

and

VIEWS

by Beverly Houser*

Scientists at Stanford University, and the Universities of California and Missouri are making astounding discoveries about the human brain,* and are coming close to closing the gap that has existed between religion and science. Religions have always taught, "as ye sow shall ye reap." The Living Light philosophy teaches that "whatever you send out comes back to you," that thoughts are things — thought forms — that have an electro-magnetic vibration which man transmits, attracting like-kind experiences.

Using high-speed computers, scientists are "zeroing in on these tell-tale electrical signals emitted by the brain's billions of neurons, or cells," and are "developing the awesome power to examine how we think, how we make up our minds, what things we like and what experiences we decide to commit to memory." They have discovered that "brain waves are like the noise of a car — all the working

parts blend together to make an overall sound." The researchers are able to discern "decision waves," "nonsense waves," when the brain is puzzled, "cocktail waves," when there is competing stimuli, and "attention centers," that send alerting signals to specialized neurons to keep them on their toes when there is something valuable to be learned. They have also discovered that "the speech center of the brain decides to speak a word and then sends out certain waves a fraction of a second before the word is vocalized — that each word has its own wave form which appears the same for everyone." "The potentially sinister part of this is that the brain sends out the word waves even if the person does not speak the word but only thinks it."

As science probes the mysteries of the mind, it is on the path to scientific proof that thoughts are much more powerful than man has ever realized. With scientists' awareness of the mind's transmissions, the door is open to scientifically discerning the effects of thought — that a negative thought creates a negative experience — that a positive thought creates a positive experience. Then mankind will

(continued page 24)

PRAYER

Help me to separate
What is true
From what I think
From what I do
Help me to know
The part of me
That is forever
Formless and free
The part that lives
Eternally.

—Beverly Houser

GIVING AND RECEIVING

Give what you have and set into motion
The universal law of giving, in order to receive
Give of what you have and you start
The flow of the Infinite into your life.

Fill your minds with thanksgiving,
For the blessings we have already received.
Get into the rhythm of the universe
And you will receive abundance as you give generously.

Be grateful for all of life's experiences—
And in our gratitude we open the door to supply.
Every experience we receive is teaching
Us something for our further growth
And higher fulfillment of our true purpose.

—Pauline Leonard

As the savage creatures tore at one another, a poisonous stench arose

The Strange Story *of*

by Anita Silvani

AHRINZIMAN

CHAPTER VIII

THE VENGEANCE PACK OF INFERNO; HOW TO DOMINATE
THEM; INTELLIGENCE RULES IN HELL AS WELL AS IN
HEAVEN; HOW ASTRAL SPRITES AFFECT HUMANITY;
DISEASE POISONS

Continued from last issue—

"It is as well that thou hast smelt that sweet savour," said he, "because now thou canst judge how deadly unto the Spirit is the magnetism thrown off from these creatures. Thou canst understand how a sensitive mortal exposed to their subtle influence would sicken and die, none could tell wherefore, because no mortal sense is keen enough to detect this poison. Thou hast heard that poison can be dropped into the heart of a rose, so that the scent of the flower shall hide the death-giving odour, and the fair beauty of the flower tempt the victim to wear it.

"The most subtle poisons are the most deadly, and it is these poisons which act directly on the Spirit. The

Earthly envelope is designed as a shield to the Spirit in the Earth life, even as the more Spiritual bodies of the succeeding stages protect the Soul in those more advanced conditions of its existence. If then the Earthly envelope be so far penetrated by the Spirit that an abnormal degree of sensitiveness is experienced, it stands to reason that this thinner envelope leaves the Spirit exposed to the action of these subtle influences, and liable to be injured by them to an extent from which the more grossly enveloped Spirit is protected. The poison of disease cannot be detected by the power of sight, yet it is none the less present in the atmosphere, and as with increasing knowledge upon Earth men will be able to

THE STORY OF AHRINZIMAN

detect the approach of the destroying pestilence, so with a more universal knowledge of magnetic laws men will become at last able to detect the approach of those more

subtle poisons which produce the Spiritual pestilences by infusing their deadly vapors into the atmosphere of Spiritual life."

CHAPTER IX

THE PLOT UNFOLDED; WE VISIT SELIM; SUFFERING FOR THE SINS OF A MOTHER

"And how dost thou intend to use these creatures for the furtherance of thy plans against Artemisia?" said I to Mansur at last, for in his delight at finding one who took an interest in his discourse he seemed to have forgotten all but the scientific aspect of the subject.

As my question recalled him to the original purpose of our meeting the dark, fiendish expression passed again over his face, and with a low chuckle of diabolical cunning he said:

"Artemisia hath escaped all knowledge of this sphere — the Astral circle of the Earth Plane — because she hath sunk to one below it, as thou also wouldst have done had it not been that in thine Earthly life thou didst form many links between this sphere and thyself. We cannot take these companions around us to the Queen, and thus cheer her

solitary hours with their sportive gambols! But Selim is yet within the confines of this sphere. He hovers around the Earth plane, and we can visit him. Thou hast much influence over him, for in thine Earth lives it was well established. Moreover, ye are the offspring of one father, and between you there is not so great a measure of antagonism as between thee and Artemisia. She hath escaped our clutches, but her son is here and we can visit him. He is in our power. Thou canst surround him with all the horrors which the hellish creatures beside us can wreak upon their victims. Thou canst paralyse his will with the strong force of thine own, which could ever dominate his. Thou canst give him over as a helpless captive into the hands of these beings around us, and of a surety 'twill be fine sport to see

(continued page 17)

Dictionary of The Living Light Philosophy



F *reedom* — Man can only be affected by that which he identifies with. To be free is to be not affected by things, by creation, by form.

I The true I is a formless, free spirit. It is known as the I of eternity.

L *ove* has no barriers, it has no identification, it has no judgment, and it has no need.

N *eutrality* is perfect balance. Perfect balance is harmony and perfect peace.

R *eformer* — If you suppress a desire of your own, your mind will dictate that that same desire, whenever you see it expressed in another, must be suppressed. So a reformer goes out on a bandwagon to force everybody else to do what they forced themself to do.

S *elf-control* is a conscious choice of all your experiences. Freedom is the effect of self-control.

T *hought of I* is a mental identification with form. It is the thought of I that has want and need. It is the thought of I that experiences the effect of the denial of the oneness of life itself. And in the denial, denies itself.

THE STRANGE STORY OF AHRINZIMAN

continued from page 15

what they will do unto him! Then through him thou canst project unto Artemisia the knowledge of his condition; his thoughts will reach her though thine cannot. If thou dost direct the thoughts of Selim unto his mother, and will that he desires her to behold his state, then will the picture of Selim be thrown upon the mirror-like atmosphere around her, and appear as real to her eyes, as objective and as near as do her own thoughts, which at present fill all her mental horizon. Through Selim she will behold thee, and will learn that thou hast him in thy clutches, while she herself is powerless to aid him in any way. Dost thou not think it is a pretty scheme? Doth it not seem to thee that thou wilt extract a far keener anguish from Artemisia by torturing her son than if thou couldst touch herself? For herself, she would defy thee! Her Spirit is as courageous and as dauntless as thine own, woman though she be! But when thou doth touch her son she will have no power to do aught; her Spirit will be broken, and she will sue to thee for mercy like the veriest slave. There will be no depths of humiliation to which thou canst not reduce

her, if only thou dost secure her son, her only son!"

He spoke in such a tone of savage, exultant triumph that I recoiled involuntarily from him, even while I ground my teeth in rage and nodded my acquiescence in his plans, for I could not but remember that Selim was the man who had dishonored me, and repaid my services with the blackest treachery.

"Selim is but a poor creature," said Mansur, "a foe scarce worthy of our spears, yet is the wrong he hath done thee a bitter one indeed. The conditions of his Earth life made him a King, yet in the Spirit World he is little more than a precocious child, weak minded and of evil tendencies. Between his parents there was no real affinity, no Spiritual union. The attraction exercised by each was merely that of their animal Souls; therefore in their son thou dost behold only the transmission of the lower qualities of the parents, while the lack of true affinity causes Selim to be like an ill-constructed harp, not one of whose strings canst thou bring into tuneful harmony with another. Thou canst not blend his qualities so that they make a perfect whole. One contradicts another continually, even as

(continued page 19)

THE
P E N E T R A L I A

BEING HARMONIAL ANSWERS TO IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Continued from last issue—

by Andrew Jackson Davis

QUESTIONS ON THE MYTHS OF MODERN THEOLOGY

Most people, with a goodly share of intelligence, believe a mass of insurmountable inconsistencies, in an orthodox creed, which they would reject as error, could they be induced to compare them, one with another. Fearing lest this comparison will be too long procrastinated, I will myself

proceed to give the reader twenty-eight affirmations of a bible-believer, and show, by means of a parallelism, that fourteen points of faith (one half) are exactly antipodistical to the other half, but which, by a church-receiver, is imagined to be every way compatible and harmonious.

What is the first affirmation and contradiction?

I believe that God is unchangeable; the same yesterday, today, and forever; without variableness neither shadow of turning.

I believe that God repented himself that he had made man; it repented him at his heart; and he cursed the ground for man's sake.

What is the second?

I believe that the first pair were pure, and without inclination either to good or evil.

I believe that Eve committed the first sin through an exercise of her own free will, or individual sovereignty.

What is the third?

I believe that God is superior to both time and space; that he is omniscient as well

I believe that man himself can determine in this world, by the life he leads and the
(continued page 40)

THE STRANGE STORY OF AHRINZIMAN

continued from page 19

between the higher natures of the parents there was continual friction, though the glamour which was cast over both by the purely magnetic attraction of their animal Souls prevented them at first from feeling this. Had the in-harmony of relation between the parents been but a few degrees greater Selim would have been an idiot. As it is he had enough sense to pass for an intelligent responsible Being in the eyes of those whose interest it was to be indulgent to his failings. Behold him now stripped of all the false glitter of Royalty and dependent upon himself for the surroundings he creates."

Mansur pointed to a flickering spark of light at an immense distance from us, and by steadily watching it I saw at last that it illuminated a minute picture of the Palace of Parsagherd and the rooms occupied by Selim. Presently the picture grew clearer, as though a strong glass reflected it to me, and I perceived that to Selim's eyes it bore the same appearance as in his Earth life, save that the furniture, the walls, and hangings, all looked cracked and stained with muddy patches and torn. In the centre sat Selim himself, on a throne he had built

for himself from the fragments of a large one which lay scattered about as though by an earthquake shock. The crown upon his head and the gold of his ornaments were tarnished like his honor, and his robes were soiled and draggled like the once purity of his Soul. He himself presented a curious appearance, for in stature and face he was like a child, though his body was bent and his countenance furrowed like those of an aged man. The feeble yet vicious expression of his mouth, with its full red lips half open and the weak chin covered by a few thin, straggling hairs in place of his once luxuriant beard, added yet another touch to the general picture he presented of weak minded vanity.

Behind him there lurked the hideous figure of the black slave from whose obsessing Spirit I had sought to free him on Earth. The expression of this Spirit was savage to the last degree, and he appeared to spend his time crawling backwards and forwards through the fatal secret passage, as though unable to withdraw himself from its attraction.

Around Selim himself I saw a great many dark figures, whose forms much resembled those of the Genii I had beheld in the mystic valley; and
(continued page 21)

To the pure all things are pure.

A Guide to Mediumship

and psychical unfoldment

E. W. & M. H. Wallis

CHAPTER VI

OBSESSIONS: ITS CAUSES AND CURE

Continued from last issue—

Advice to the Sensitive.

Do not expect that you will be influenced by a low class of spirit people, either on this side or the other; neither should you fear any such contingency, as by so doing you will go half-way to meet the very danger you dread — but in case it should happen, it is well that you should know what to do to close the avenues of your psychic self to any such unwelcome intrusions. By brooding, introspective, sorrowful and self-pitying fear-thought, people become morbid and unbalanced. Do not give way to any such tendencies. We do not go about in terror of our lives because we know that there are scoundrels in this world — why, then, should you be cowardly and afraid because there are fools, frauds, and pretenders 'over there'? Remember that spirits

20

cannot make you do anything against your determined will.

Keep body and mind pure and healthy and control your thoughts. 'Fear makes cowards of us all' — the remedy is knowledge and pure purpose. You can overcome weakness and evil thoughts by substituting good strong thoughts; by cultivating an affirmative and positive mental attitude and by rising to a higher spiritual plane.

When you know that, by the exercise of your own will, you can control your psychic conditions and become soul-centered so as to prevent any unwelcome or uncongenial influence affecting you to your injury, you need have no fear.

Like seeks like as a rule. But if, owing to inharmonious surroundings, or unspiritual sitters, or temporary weakness of body, or lack of watchfulness, you should become

(continued page 28)

THE STRANGE STORY OF AHRINZIMAN

continued from page 19

mingling with them were certain Spirits of a low type who seemed to have been slaves in Earth life, and who were now attracted to the Court and waited upon Selim under the confused impression that they were still in their Earthly bodies. These last Spirits he seemed to see, but to the presence of the others he was oblivious.

"Behold," said Mansur, "in Earth life Artemisia drew around her by her angry, vengeful thoughts a whole host of dark Spirits whose influence shadowed her son even from his cradle. They gathered around him and sucked away his Spiritual life, so that the Spirit body grew stunted and feeble, and even the Earthly envelope suffered in sympathy and became feeble and ailing. They instilled foul thoughts into his mind, and they used his body as a medium whereby they could enjoy over again those material pleasures for which they still craved. Thus

was the private life of King Selim one of much degradation and shame without the Spirit of Selim himself being conscious of it.

"To use the body thus it is needful to dispossess the rightful Spirit, which is thus left in an unconscious state in close proximity to its envelope, as thou dost already know. Had Selim been a conscious participator in the iniquities wrought by the agency of his Earth body his state now would be akin to that of the dark Spirits around us. As it was he suffered in the enfeebled condition of his body for the use thus made of it without knowing to what agency it was due. In Spirit life he hath but the development of a child, yet is his Spirit body worn and aged by the vices of the man. Time will equalize all things, and will give to him the growth of his Spirit into manhood. Then will it be for him to use his powers for his own elevation or degradation, as the temper of his mind shall incline him.

(continued next issue)

*Lack of consideration is transgression of principle,
the divine law, and man suffers or pays the price
which is called an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth.*

— The Wise One

Continuing a consideration of worship as required by man's nature.

iscourses

from

The Spirit World

Dictated by Stephen Olin through Rev. R. P. Wilson, 1853

DISCOURSE VIII.

THE TRUE WORSHIP OF THE FATHER

Continued from last issue—

As man's spirit is an emanation from the Spiritual Sun of the universe, it cannot be contaminated by dwelling in the flesh any more than the great Spiritual Light of all existence is defiled by intermingling in all substances, and constituting the life of all beings. Every department of man's nature has its specific faculties and functions. The spiritual qualities of these are sustained by a constant *supply* from the great Spirit-nature, surrounding and pervading all things.

Man, as a spirit, is in constant need of the nourishing element of divine love; and that this element may flow into his inmost nature, it is only necessary for him to conform to specific conditions. Believe — be self-conscious — that you have a spiritual internal exis-

tence — feel the dependence of this existence upon its Infinite source; then compose your thought, and place yourself in a passive relation to the all-pervading element of spiritual love, and you will soon test the truth of spiritual communion, and taste the joys of a Divine influx.

Man, as a spirit, also needs the element of divine wisdom; hence, "if any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all men liberally, and it shall be given him." Wisdom is the principle that adapts means to ends; and to obtain this most desirable element of spiritual light, preserve, as before directed, a passive state; fix the mind upon your spiritual needs, and with a gentle desire look for the light which beams from above, and soon a glorious halo, as it were, will

DISCOURSES FROM THE SPIRIT-WORLD

illuminate your spiritual being.

Moreover, man, as a spirit, needs energy. To accomplish the labors of the earthly life, and to move in harmony with all celestial beings along the road of endless progression, he needs a constant influx of the spiritual cause of motion. This element is received in the same manner as the principles of love and wisdom. Thus, *he* is a true worshiper of God who lives in obedience to the true relations subsisting between all intelligent beings and their Origin and Cause. "And such," it is truly said, "the Father seeketh," or attracteth, "to worship him."

IV. We are to consider, lastly, the imperfect forms and erroneous ideas entertained in the religious opinions of mankind. It has been observed that the worship required by man's spiritual nature, and demanded by the Father, is spiritual in form and principle; "for they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth." But what are the imperfect *forms*? and what are the wrong ideas entertained by the majority of mankind at present? As *imperfect* forms arise from wrong ideas, we will first consider some of the *opinions* that obtain among theological teachers. Having

myself once entertained many errors, and knowing by experience the bondage of mental and spiritual slavery, I will the more readily attempt an exposition of these errors, to the end that spiritual freedom may more generally prevail.

A theological opinion of extensive influence, and exerting an evil tendency, is, that God can not be approached or worshiped excepting through *sacrifice*. *This principle asserts* the revolting idea that the Infinitely Compassionate Father of mankind seeks the blood or life of those creatures that he has caused to grow for the service of the human family. This idea, also, makes cruelty an indispensable element in the form of this supposed worship. Although this method of appeasing the supposed anger of an unchangeable Jehovah is at the present time mostly confined to very unadvanced portions of the human race, the *principle* which it involves is maintained by the most enlightened nations, with but few exceptions. All the sacrifice that God ever required was that of a repenting and "contrite heart" — a willing performance of those requirements alike demanded by the creature and Creator.

(continued next issue)

PROMISE, THE DESTINY OF LIFE

continued from page 9

thought, changes when we change our thought. And so many people come to this philosophy in the hopes of a

better life, that better life is waiting for everyone but it is directly dependent upon their willingness to change. □

READING

continued from page 10

peace, into the experience. It's not someone else being peaceful, and it's not having peaceful surroundings that makes us peaceful. It is a conscious choice we alone make — a choice available at any given moment to not be controlled by mental patterns of discord, but to choose peace — the

power that healeth. Whenever any doubt, fear, concern, regret, anger, despair, or discord arises in our thoughts it is up to us to choose the familiar friend we have become aware of in our meditation, in a peaceful spot, in lovely music — that friend is the power of God — peace.

enediction

Thank Thee, God, for our awareness of Thy power —

may we use it everyday, in every way.

Self-concern is the epitome of the ego brain mechanism declaring and insisting upon its superiority of regin to dictate to God how things shall be.

— The Wise One



DIVINE HEALING PRAYER

I accept that the Divine Healing Power
Is removing all obstructions
From my mind and body
And is restoring me to perfect
Health, wealth and happiness.
My heart is filled with gratitude
For the Divine Law of Acceptance
That is healing both present and absent ones
Who are in need of help.
Peace, the power that healeth,
Is guiding my thoughts, acts and deeds,
As God and I go hand in hand
Living a life of joyful abundance.



VIEWS OF OUR HEAVENLY HOME

continued from page 8

relative to her life in the Spheres. But by acquired knowledge concerning the inconceivable magnitudes and the immeasurable distances of the regions or worlds in space, to which the celestial people make prolonged pilgrimages, all surprise at her continued absence, as well as all anxiety about the utter silence of scores of others I would be very glad to meet, have perfectly gone out of my thoughts. And in all this I hope the reader's mind is also enlarged and at rest.

Brighter than the brightest crystals is the scene, which is only partially indicated by the map, embracing the Seven Lakes of Cylosimar. Lovelier localities cannot be imagined. Beautiful aroal emanations surround and pervade three of those lakes; while the remaining four seem to inhale the fragrance and to absorb the very light of the heavens; impressing upon the mind a picture of Paradise which only the pure and the noble would be qualified thoroughly to enjoy. Naturalness, spontaneity, beauty, perfection — are the only words that

enter my thoughts. I would remain here and contemplate forever; for here I could forever adore and worship. Hither, amid the glories and superabounding goodness of Divinity, I would attract all whom I tenderly love. Beneath these bright skies, and beside these soft-flowing golden streams, listening to the voices of angel-people, blending with the sacred songs of beautiful birds, I would dwell and dream away all the ages of eternity.

* * * Looking far away eastward you behold a hill-belted country where live the after-death inhabitants of planets like Venus and Mercury and several of the satellites. Drawing closer, you seem to feel that the people are steeped in sunbeams. Dreamingly, sleepily they look out upon the sky and over the distant sparkling fields. An indescribable beauty floats among them, and a drowsy and delightful fragrance fills the atmosphere, to which these remarkable people seem to be blind, and unattracted, and insensible. Ah! I behold what all this means.

(continued next issue)



Spiritual Healing

by Miriam Bostwick*

The Living Light philosophy teaches the law of personal responsibility — that we, and we alone, are responsible for all our thoughts, acts and deeds. Each thought affects the chemistry in our bodies in either a harmonious or discordant way, depending on the nature of the thought. Therefore, it behooves us to frequently take stock of our thoughts and make the necessary changes in our attitudes of mind. Our health is so directly affected by our thinking.

The mind is a very beautiful instrument, designed as a tool to serve the soul. So often however the mind rises in its supremacy over the soul and unloving, self-oriented, inconsiderate, greedy, selfish, limited thinking takes over. When we direct our energy into these levels, in time, our health is

affected. The mind, not wanting to give up its patterns, regardless of whether or not they are destructive, will deny the law of personal responsibility — deny that the energy it is directing through its thoughts goes out into the universe and returns the experiences we are having in life. The mind would rather place the blame outwardly for the experiences it does not like, including poor health. It blames germs, accidents, other people's emotions and troubles and so forth. The truth still remains that we, and we alone, set the stage, so to speak, to be receptive to outside influences. We have the power to control our thinking or to give away our divine birthright and be controlled by someone or something outside ourselves. □

*Editor's Note — The SENTINEL extends its appreciation to the many students of the Serenity concept of Spiritualism who contribute their articles to this magazine, sharing their understanding with our readers. Student articles are recognized by an asterisk.**

A GUIDE TO MEDIUMSHIP

continued from page 20

subject to the dominating thoughts of any spirit, in or out of the body, that are calculated to lower your tone, remember — you have but to be determined, and call upon your own governing will forces, to be positive and repel all such influences.

A Gospel of Gladness, Goodness, and Cheer.

Spiritualism is a gospel of

glad tidings, and it should lift you above the mists of superstition and fear into the serener air of spiritual self-confidence, of faith in your own divine nature, and joyous self-possession. Obsessing influences cannot reach you or hold you when your soul is thrilling with delight and your mind is fully engaged in optimistic work for the good of humanity.

(continued next issue)

THE LARK & HER YOUNG ONES

continued from page 38

morning. You and I will have to get to work and cut this grain ourselves."


When the little Larks told their mother this, she said, "All right, now we will have to leave. This grain really will be cut if the farmer is going to do

it himself." So they moved and the grain was reaped the next day by the farmer and his son.

The Point: If you want a thing done right, do it yourself.

*No one can carry your burden,
No one can lift your load; but
Angels of Light wait patiently
To tell you their stories of old.*

—The Wise One

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A WANDERER IN THE SPIRIT LANDS

continued from page 4

open the gate. I did my best to comfort her and give her all the hope I could, and while I was doing so the solid gate before us melted away and we passed through. Then as suddenly I saw it rise again behind me, while the woman had vanished, and beside the bridge stood a feeble old man bent nearly double. As I was still wondering about the gate a voice said to me, "That is the gate of kind deeds and kind thoughts. Those who are on the other side must wait till their kind thoughts and acts for others are heavy enough to weigh the gate down, when it will open for them as it did for you who have tried so hard to help your fellows."

I now advanced to the bridge where the old man was standing, poking about with his stick as if feeling his way, and groaning over his helplessness. I was so afraid he would fall through the broken part without seeing it, that I rushed impulsively forward and offered to help him over. But he shook his head, "No! no! young man, the bridge is so rotten it will never bear your weight and mine. Go on yourself, and leave me here to do the best I can."

"Not so, you are feeble,

and old enough to be my grandfather, and if I leave you you will most likely drop through the broken place. Now, I am active and strong, and it will go hard with us if I do not contrive somehow to get us both across."

Without waiting for his reply I took hold of him and hoisted him on to my back, and telling him to hold tight by my shoulders I started to cross the bridge.

Sapristi! what a weight that old man seemed! Sinbad's old man of the sea was a joke to him. That bridge, too, how it creaked, groaned and bent under our weight. I thought we must both be tumbled into the chasm below, and all the time the old man kept imploring me not to drop him. On I struggled, holding with my hands as well as I could, and crawling on all-fours when we reached the worst part. When we got to the middle there was a great ragged hole and only the broken ends of the two great beams to catch hold of. Here I did feel it a difficulty. I could have swung myself across I felt certain, but it was a different thing with that heavy old man clinging to me and half choking me, and a thought did cross my mind that I might have done better to leave him alone, but that

(continued page 32)

Serenity Students

*by Sandy Haeberle**

"Imagination is the doorway to the spirit world," we learn in The Living Light philosophy. So often have we heard people scoff, saying "it's only in their imagination." But now we understand to "image constructively" and that "imagination is the essence of art." There is a much greater value to imagination than we have ever realized.

Any time we feel we have created a new idea, invented a new machine, or written a new piece of music we in truth have only become receptive to

what already exists in other dimensions that has finally sifted its way down to us through our law of merit. Imagination is the instrument through which this all takes place.

Another great use of imagery is the redirection of energy and setting new laws into motion for our future. For whatever we can hold in image today is like planting a seed in fertile soil which will grow and bring forth our tomorrows. □

*by Robert Toquinto**

There have been many great truths to help free our soul from the bondage of the patterns of mind. One that stands out is, "God is the true and only source of my supply."

This truth affirms an acceptance of something greater than our mind, that God is the goodness in our life, that He is the sustainer of our health, our wealth and our happiness.

If we can, with the law of continuity, express this beautiful affirmation daily, moment by moment, we could some day be free in this world of creation. Through constant prayer we can be freed from the control of our mind, for peace and the faculty of reason will rise in our consciousness and goodness in our life will prevail. □

A WANDERER IN THE SPIRIT LANDS

continued from page 30

seemed so cruel to the poor old soul that I made up my mind to risk it. The poor old man gave a great sigh when he saw how matters stood, and said:

"You had better abandon me after all. I am too helpless to get across and you will only spoil your own chance by trying it. Leave me here and go on alone."

His tone was so dejected, so miserable, I could never have so left him, and I thought to make a desperate effort for us both, so telling him to hold on tight I grasped the broken beam with one hand and, making a great spring, I swung myself over the chasm with such a will we seemed to fly across, and alighted upon the other side unharmed.

As I looked back to see what we had escaped, I cried out in astonishment, for there was no break in the bridge at all, but it was as sound a bridge as ever I saw, and by my side there stood not a feeble old man but Ahrinzi-man himself, laughing at my astonishment. He put his hand upon my shoulder and said:

"Franchizzo, my son, that was but a little trial to test if you would be unselfish enough to burden yourself with a heavy old man when your own chance seemed so

small. I leave you now to encounter the last of your trials and to judge for yourself the nature of those doubts and suspicions you have cherished. Adieu, and may success attend you."

He turned away from me and immediately vanished, leaving me to go on alone through another deep valley which was before me.

* * * * *

It lay between two precipitous hills, and was called "The valley of the phantom mists." Great wreaths of grey vapor floated to and fro and crept up the hill sides, shaping themselves into mysterious phantom forms and hovering around me as I walked.

The farther I advanced through the ravine the thicker grew these shapes, growing more distinct and like living things. I knew them to be no more than the thought creations of my earthly life, yet seen in this life-like palpable form they were like haunting ghosts of my past, rising up in accusing array against me. The suspicions I had nursed, the doubts I had fostered, the unkind, unholy thoughts I had cherished, all seemed to gather round me, menacing and terrible, mocking me and

(continued page 34)

In Our Thoughts

Ernie Aliotto
Don Aureleia
Brother
Dean Cavender
Vera Cavender
Dona Eugenia
Francis M. Gelardi, Jr.
Isa Goodwin
Jonquil

Rose Krasnovsky
Erick Othberg
Greta Othberg
Snowflake
Carlotta Sosa
Tippette
Britta Uppstrom
Sarah Williams
Esther Yavneh

To send a helpful thought of joy and light to those you love who have passed to the higher life, list their names in this column. Donation of one dollar per name is requested.

A WANDERER IN THE SPIRIT LANDS

continued from page 32

taunting me with the past, whispering in my ears and closing over my head like great waves of darkness. As my life had grown more full of such thoughts, so did my path become blocked with them till they hemmed me in on every side. Such fearful, distorted, hateful-looking things! And these had been my own thoughts, these mirrored the state of my own mind towards others. These brooding spirits of the mist — dark, suspicious, and bewildering — confronted me now and showed me what my heart had been. I had had so little faith in goodness — so little trust in my fellow man. Because I had been cruelly deceived I had said in my haste all men, and women too, are liars, and I had sneered at the weakness and the folly around me, and thought it was always the same thing everywhere, all bitterness and disappointment.

So these thought-creations had grown up, mass upon mass, till now that I sought to battle with them they seemed to overwhelm and stifle me, wrapping me up in the great vaporous folds of their phantom forms. In vain I sought to beat them off, to shake myself free of them. They gathered round and closed me in even as my doubts and suspicions

had done. I was seized with horror, and fought as if they had been living things that were sweeping me to destruction. And then I saw a deep dark crevasse open in the ground before me, to which these phantoms were driving me, a gulf into which it seemed I must sink unless I could free myself from these awful ghosts. Like a madman I strove and wrestled with them, fighting as for dear life, and still they closed me in and forced me back and back towards that gloomy chasm. Then in my anguish of soul I called aloud for help to be free from them, and throwing my arms out before me with all my force I seemed to grasp the foremost phantom and hurl it from me. Then did the mighty cloud of doubts waver and break as though a wind had scattered them, and I sank overcome and exhausted upon the ground; and as I sank into unconsciousness I had a dream, a brief but lovely dream, in which I thought my beloved had come to me and scattered those foul thoughts, and that she knelt down beside me and drew my head to rest upon her bosom as a mother with her child. I thought I felt her arms encircle me and hold me safe, and then the dream was over

(continued page 36)



Children's Corner



We help our self by being aware of our thoughts in our head and by saying our affirmations to God.

Ayanna Wright, Age 8

At one of the dinner socials I wanted a doorprise and I found out someone else got it. I was very disappointed, because I made a judgement that I would get it. And when you make judgements you loose out. But if you try to stay at peace and keep away from the judgements you can stay out of trouble.

Lisa Toquinto, Age 12

I just found out today that I need a lot of tolerance for young children because they move around a lot and make all sorts of noise.

Jaye Chillas, Age 15½

When we are grateful for the good things in life more will come.

Stacey McKenzie, Age 10

When you have a good experience you feel good. Good experiences will continue if we made the effort to put our attention on God.

Michael Field, Age 10

I like doing chores. Because I know I'm helping out my family. Every day I feed the dog, cats, chinkens and horses. And clean my room. On monday's I clean up the house and help my mother and father do different things. Thursdays I help my mom deliver the newspaper. She *dilivers* it in Sonoma and Santa Rosa and a few other places.

Patrice Marie Karlsen, Age 12

If we get in trouble our punishment should teach us a lesson so we don't do it again. Like if you take someting from the store and your mom finds out and you get in trouble you might get mad but it's teaching you a lesson.

Stacey McKenzie, Age 10

In keeping with Serenity's policy to encourage expression by all its students, this column contains the unedited articles submitted by the children attending our children's philosophy classes. — Editor

A WANDERER IN THE SPIRIT LANDS

continued from page 34
and I fell asleep.

* * * * *

When I recovered consciousness I was resting still in that valley, but the mists had rolled away and my time of bitter doubt and suspicion was past. I lay upon a bank of soft green turf at the end of the ravine, and before me there was a meadow watered by a smooth peaceful river of clear crystal water. I arose and followed the windings of the stream for a short distance, and arrived at a beautiful grove of trees. Through the trunks I could see a clear pool on whose surface floated water-lilies. There was a fairy-like fountain in the middle, from which the spray fell like a shower of diamonds into the transparent water. The trees arched their branches overhead and through them I could see the blue sky. I drew near to rest and refresh myself at the fountain, and as I did so a fair nymph in a robe of green gossamer and with a crown of water-lilies on her head drew near to help me. She was the guardian spirit of the fountain, and her work

was to help and refresh all weary wanderers like myself. "In earth life," said she, "I lived in a forest, and here in the spirit land I find a home surrounded by the woods I love so well."

She gave me food and drink, and after I had rested a while showed me a broad pathway through the trees, which led to a Home of Rest where I might repose for a time. With a grateful heart I thanked this bright spirit, and following the path soon found myself before a large building covered with honeysuckle and ivy. It had many windows and wide open doors as though to invite all to enter. It was approached by a great gateway of what looked like wrought iron, only that the birds and flowers on it were so life-like they seemed to have clustered there to rest. While I stood looking at the gate it opened as by magic, and I passed on to the house. Here several spirits in white robes came to welcome me, and I was conducted to a pretty room whose windows looked out upon a grassy lawn and soft fairy-like trees, and here I was bidden to repose myself.

(continued next issue)

Constance tells Louis that she will soon be going to the spirit world.

Ghost Land

RESEARCHES INTO THE MYSTERIES OF OCCULTISM

Translated and Edited by Emma Hardinge Britten, 1897

CHAPTER III — PROFESSOR MULLER, THE GREAT SCIENTIST AND MATHEMATICIAN, Constance — The Victim — How a Flying Soul Becomes An Immortal Spirit.

Continued from last issue—

"Constance!" I cried, "is it then given you to know what new form you will inhabit? Surely one so good and true and beautiful can become nothing less than a radiant planetary spirit!"

"I shall be the same Constance I ever was" she replied, solemnly. "I am an immortal spirit now, although bound in material chains within this frail body, and in magnetic chains still more terrible to the power of yon base, bad men."

"Constance, you dream! Death is the end of individuality. Your spirit may be, must be, taken up by the bright realms of starry being, but never as the Constance you now are."

"Forever and forever, Louis, I shall be ever the same. I have seen worlds of being those magians cannot ascend

to — worlds of bright, resurrected human souls upon whom death has had no power save to dissolve the earthly chains that held them in tenelements of clay. I have seen the soul world; I have seen that it is imperishable. Louis, there are in these grasses beneath our feet spiritual essences that never die. In my moments of happiest lucidity, that is" — and here a strong shudder shook her frame — when I could escape from my tormentors and the world of demons amongst whom they delight to roam, then, Louis, my soul winged through space and pierced into a brighter interior than they have ever realized, aye, even into the real soul of the universe, not the mere magnetic envelope which binds spirit and body together. Louis, in the first or inner recesses of nature is
(continued page 39)

FABLES for young and old

THE LARK & HER YOUNG ONES

A Lark, who had her nest and young larks in a field of grain, had to leave them every day because she had to go and hunt for food.

The grain was ripe and just about ready to be cut, so the mother Lark told the young ones to listen very carefully to any talk they might hear and tell her about it when she came home.

While she was gone the young ones heard the farmer who owned the grain call out to his son that the crop was ripe and ready for cutting. He told his boy to go tell their friends and neighbors to come early the next morning to help him reap it.

So, when the mother Lark came back to the nest the little ones peeped and squeaked with excitement. They were so afraid their nest would be found the next day when the grain was cut that they all tried at the same time to tell their mother.

"Now quiet down and don't get so fussed," she said. "If that farmer is going to wait for his friends and neighbors to help him cut it, this grain won't be cut tomorrow. Now go to sleep."

The next day she went off again and after a while the farmer and his son came to the field, but the Lark had been right and there were no friends or neighbors anywhere to be seen. So after waiting a long time, the farmer said to his son, "Well, I guess our friends and neighbors can't be depended on for help. You had better go tell your uncles and cousins that I want them to come tomorrow morning to help us cut this grain."

The son went off to do so, and when the mother Lark came back that time the little ones nearly fell out of their nest trying to tell her about it, they were so frightened.

"Don't you worry about that either," she said, "I don't think he will find that his relatives will come running to help him with any hard work, but you children listen very, very carefully to what the farmer says tomorrow."

So they did.

When the farmer and his son waited and waited and no relatives came at all, he turned around to his son and said, "Well, George, I guess you had better get a couple of good sickles sharpened up tomorrow

(continued page 28)

GHOSTLAND

continued from page 37

the realm of force, comprising light, heat, magnetism, life, nerve, aura, essence, and all the imponderables that make up motion, for motion is force, composed of many subdivisible parts. Here inhere those worlds of half-formed, embryonic existences with which our tormentors hold intercourse. They are the spiritual parts of matter, and supply to matter the qualities of force; but they are all embryonic, all transitory, and only partially intelligent existences. Nothing which is imperfect is permanent, hence these imperfect elementary spirits have no real or permanent existence; they are fragments of being — organs, but not organisms — and until they are combined into the organism of manhood, they can outwork no real individuality, hence they perish — die, that we may gather up their progressed atoms, and incarnate their separate organs as the complete organism of man."

"And man, himself, Constance?"

"Man as a perfected organism cannot die, Louis. The mould in which he is formed must perish, in order that the soul may go free. The envelope, or magnetic body that binds body and soul together,

is formed of force and elementary spirit; hence this stays for a time with the soul after death, and enables it to return to, or linger around the earth for providential purposes until it has become purified from sin; but even this at length drops off, and then the soul lives as pure spirit, in spirit realms, gloriously bright, radiantly happy, strong, powerful, eternal, infinite. That is heaven; that it is to dwell with God; such souls are his angels."

"Constance, you speak with assurance. How know you this — not from the Brotherhood?"

"The Brotherhood, Louis! Why, they are but groping through the thick darkness of the material world and just penetrating the realms of force.

"I tell you those realms are only peopled with shadows, ghosts, phantoms.

"The hand is not the body, the eye is not the head; neither are the thin, vapory essences that constitute the separate organs of which the world of force is composed, the soul. Mark me, Louis! Priests dream of the existence of soul worlds, the Brotherhood of the beings in the world of force. The priests call the elementary spirits of the mid-region mere creations of human fancy and superstition.

(continued page 41)

THE PENETRALIA

continued from page 18

as omnipotent; that he saw the end from the beginning; and that he fore-ordains and pre-arranges all events in the progression of time.

What is the fourth?

I believe in the divine origin and sanctity and universal obligatoriness of that commandment — “Thou shalt not kill.”

What is the fifth?

I believe in the divine authenticity and universal applicability of that commandment — “Thou shalt not commit adultery.”

What is the sixth?

I believe that God is superior to all human weaknesses; that he is never arbitrary in his governments, providences, or punishments.

character he forms, whether he will enjoy everlasting bliss or suffer eternal misery.

I believe that Moses and Joshua received divine commissions to *kill thousands of human beings* for the glory of God and the advancement of his righteous kingdom.

I believe that Moses and Joshua received orders from the throne of Grace to war with the Midianites, and, after putting to death all the male and female parents and male children, that he then gave the unmarried and virgin females for the use of the men composing the army.

I believe that God is “a jealous God” — visiting the iniquities of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations; that he will have mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.

(continued next issue)

GHOST LAND

continued from page 39

The Brothers charge the same hallucination upon the priests. Both are partly right and partly wrong, for the actual experiences of the soul will prove that beings exist of both natures, and that both realms are verities; only the elementary spirits in the realms of force are like the earth, perishable and transitory, and the perfected spirits in the realm of soul are immortal, and never die. Louis, I have seen and conversed with both, and I know I do not dream. Here, miserable that I am, I am bound to earth; my soul is imprisoned by the chains of force; I am compelled to minister to the insatiate curiosity of the spirits who cannot ascend beyond those mid-regions, and oh! the horror of that bondage would have bereft my soul of reason, had it not been redeemed by foregleams of the more holy and exalted destiny reserved for the soul in the blest sphere of immortality. Dear boy, ask me no more, press me no further. My sweet brother, dearly, fondly loved by Constance! when I am an enfranchised spirit, I will come to thee, and prove my words by the very presence of an arisen, immortal soul. Remember!"

During the months suc-

ceeding this memorable conversation, I only encountered the "flying soul" of the dying Constance once.

I understood that this recession of her spirit was from no decrease of the experiments, whatever they might be, that she suffered, nor yet from any cessation of her attraction to myself, but the bonds of earth were loosening, the vital forces waning, and I knew that the pale phantom was losing the earthly essence necessary to become visible even in the atmosphere of invisible forces. My beautiful saint would soon be taken from me, my earthly idol would be shattered; and oh! were it possible to believe her words, and think that she could still live in a brighter and better state of being, I might have been comforted; but driven from this anchor of hope by the emphatic teachings of the Brotherhood and their spirits, I beheld my earth angel melting away into blank annihilation, with an anguish that admitted of no alleviation, a pain at my heart almost insupportable.

I had been away for some months in England, pursuing studies of which I shall speak more presently. Professor von Marx had been my companion, and we had just returned,

(continued page 42)

GHOST LAND

continued from page 41

when one night, as I was about to retire to rest, and proceeded to draw the curtain which shaded my window, something seemed to rise outside the casement, which intercepted the light of the moon. The house in which I dwelt was on the borders of a beautiful lake, and too high above it to allow of any stray passenger climbing up to my casement. There was no boat on the waters, no foothold between them and the terrace, which was far below my window. I had been gazing out for some time on the placid lake, illumined by the broad path of light shed over it by the full moon, and I knew that no living creature was near or could gain access to my apartment; and yet there, standing on air against the casement, and intercepting the rays that streamed on either side of her on the mosaic floor of my chamber, stood the gracious and radiant form of Constance Muller.

Radiant, shining, and glorious she now appeared, her sweet eyes looking full of penetrating intelligence into mine, her sweet smile directed towards me, and a motion of

her hand like the action of a salute, indicating that the apparition saw and recognized me, and was all beaming with interest and intelligence. By a process which was not ordinary motion, the lovely phantom seemed to glide through the window and appear suddenly within a few feet of the couch, to which, on her first appearance, I had staggered back. Slightly bending forward, as if to arrest my attention, though without the least movement of the lips, her voice reached my ear, saying: "I am free, happy, and immortal." Swiftly as she had appeared, the apparition vanished, and in its place I beheld the visionary semblance of the old-fashioned room in the college building occupied by Constance Muller. On a couch which I well knew, lay the form of the once beautiful tenant, pale, ghastly, dead! The form was partly covered over with a sheet, but where the white dressing-robe she wore was open at the throat I observed clearly and distinctly two black, livid spots, like the marks of a thumb and finger.

The face was distorted, the eyes staring, and I saw she had been murdered.

(continued next issue)

Freedom without wisdom is the path to license. —The Wise One

✦ humor is the salvation of the soul ✦

THE HIDDEN MEANING

“Engineering leadership has been augmented by revolutionary design improvements in the new models.”

Translation: Same old car with a new front bumper.

“Kid Blotto is noted for his fancy footwork.”

Translation: He’s good at running away.

“Her rendition of the aria is characterized by forceful musicianship and great feeling for the fortissimo passages.”

Translation: She sings too loud.

“The new vice-president is the youngest executive in the industry.”

Translation: His father owns the company.

“The artist has renounced sterile concepts of perspective to achieve a refreshingly new freedom of design.”

Translation: He can’t draw a straight line.

—Lorain (Ohio) Labor Leader

The Living Light Philosophy: Truth is simple that it may confound the seeming wise.

SERENITY EVENTS

DINNER PARTY: AUGUST 16, 1980 at 6:30 p.m.

The country of Germany will be honored at Serenity’s August dinner party. All are cordially invited to attend on Saturday, August 16 at the American Legion Log Cabin in San Anselmo. The social hour will begin at 6:30 p.m.

BAKE SALE: AUGUST 23, 1980 — all day

The monthly bake sale will be held at Northgate Plaza, Terra Linda, near Long’s Drug Store. We look forward to seeing you there.

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